

**MINUTES
OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE
EDINA CITY COUNCIL
HELD AT CITY HALL
DECEMBER 18, 2007
5:00 P.M.**

Mayor Hovland called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. in the Community Room of City Hall. Answering rollcall were: Members Bennett, Housh, Masica, Swenson and Mayor Hovland. Staff present included: Gordon Hughes, City Manager; Heather Worthington, Assistant City Manager; Ceil Smith, Assistant to the City Manager; Jennifer Bennerotte, Communications & Marketing Director; and Debra Mangen, City Clerk.

Mayor Hovland said the purpose of the work session was to discuss the public comment portion of the agenda and to finish discussion on boards, commissions and committees' roles and responsibilities.

Manager Hughes reviewed the proposed schedule of upcoming work and study sessions as follows:

- Work Session, January 2, 2008 – interview candidates for appointment to boards, commissions and committees
- Work Session, January 15, 2008 – joint meeting with Heritage Preservation Board – preview of Country Club survey
- Study Session, January 22, 2008 – Comp Plan
- Work Session, February 4, 2008 – possibly legislative update

The Council discussed the public comment portion of the agenda. Revisions were suggested to the "Edina City Council Meeting Procedures". It was pointed out that citizens did not understand the rules as they applied to public comment as evidenced by the confusion over the video presentation by residents of Oaklawn Avenue. Several suggestions were offered and discussed of potential ways to improve and clarify the public comment. Following their discussion, the Council agreed that the language on the Agenda under "Edina City Council Meeting Procedures" would be modified to read as follows:

"During "Public Comments," the Mayor will ask to hear from those in attendance who would like to speak about something not on the agenda. Individuals must limit their presentations to three minutes and cannot speak to an issue for which a public hearing was previously held and closed within the last month or a matter scheduled for a future hearing on a specific date. Individuals should not expect the Mayor or Council to respond to their comments. Instead, the Council might direct the matter to staff for consideration at a future meeting."

Staff was directed to research the use of a "comment card" by other cities for possible consideration of use.

The Council and staff discussed the roles and responsibilities of the City's advisory boards, commissions, and committees. A question arose about possible conflicts of interest and staff was directed to request the City Attorney draft some language explaining what constituted a conflict. The Council directed staff to develop training for new board, commission and committee members.

The Council held a brief discussion on the tenure and potential one year reappointment of Planning Commission Chair Lonsbury, who was term limited, but had led the Comp Plan Task Force.

Mayor Hovland declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Mangen, City Clerk